

To: Brees, Angela[Brees.Angela@epa.gov]; Carey, Curtis[Carey.Curtis@epa.gov]
From: Bond, Shannon
Sent: Mon 12/7/2015 8:12:18 PM
Subject: RE: OPA Daily Digest, 12/03/15

That is how I understand it as well.

From: Brees, Angela
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2015 9:31 AM
To: Carey, Curtis <Carey.Curtis@epa.gov>
Cc: Bond, Shannon <bond.shannon@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: OPA Daily Digest, 12/03/15

She is burning use or lose every Friday through December, I believe.

Angela M. Brees, Deputy Director

Office of Public Affairs

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brees.angela@epa.gov

On Dec 4, 2015, at 8:34 AM, Carey, Curtis <Carey.Curtis@epa.gov> wrote:

Quick question. What does Cecilia mean by "Fridays"? All Fridays?

From: Bryan, David
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2015 7:33 AM

To: Bond, Shannon <bond.shannon@epa.gov>; Kessler, Martin <Kessler.Martin@epa.gov>
Cc: Carey, Curtis <Carey.Curtis@epa.gov>; Washburn, Ben <washburn.ben@epa.gov>; Quirarte-Ortiz, Cecilia <Quirarte-Ortiz.Cecilia@epa.gov>; Whitley, Christopher <Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: OPA Daily Digest, 12/03/15

Do we have an alternate to post Daily Digest on Fridays since Cecilia will be out?

David W. Bryan, APR

Press Officer/Public Affairs Specialist

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<http://www.facebook.com/eparegion7>

www.twitter.com/@EPARegion7

www.scribd.com/eparegion7

From: Quirarte-Ortiz, Cecilia
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 3:49 PM
To: Whitley, Christopher <Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov>
Cc: Bryan, David <Bryan.David@epa.gov>; Carey, Curtis <Carey.Curtis@epa.gov>; Washburn, Ben <washburn.ben@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: OPA Daily Digest, 12/03/15
Importance: High

Posted/sent. Just a reminder that I won't be here to post on Fridays. Thanks.

From: Whitley, Christopher
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2015 3:06 PM
To: R7 Daily Digest INBOX <R7_Daily_Digest_INBOX@epa.gov>
Subject: OPA Daily Digest, 12/03/15
Importance: High

OPA Daily Digest – 12/03/15

Upcoming EPA Region 7 Events by Division

New additions noted with an asterisk

RA:

12/8-9/15 - Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Dick Sumpter, 7661

12/11/15 – Kansas Farmers Union State Convention, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

12/14/15 - Courtesy Visit with Rob Manes and John Cougher, The Nature Conservancy, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

DRA:

12/8-9/15 - Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Dick Sumpter, 7661

12/14/15 - Courtesy Visit with Rob Manes and John Cougher, The Nature Conservancy, Regional Office. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events**AWMD**

12/3/15 – Meet with Iowa Department of Natural Resources Air Quality Bureau and observe Kaizen event, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

12/7/15 – Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant exercise, Burlington, Kan. Contact: Chuck Hooper, 7271

12/8-10/15 – 2015 National Capacity Development and Operator Certification Workshop with EPA and states, Dallas, Tex. Contact: Bob Dunlevy, 7798

12/10/15 - Mid-America Regional Council's Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Fatima Ndiaye, 7383

12/10-12/15 – U.S. Department of Agriculture Northern Plains Regional Climate Hub and Department of the Interior Joint Stakeholders Committee Meeting, Fort Collins, Colo. Contact: Amy Shields, 7396

12/11/15 – Missouri Emergency Response Commission meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Terri Blunk, 7013

12/16/15 – Executive Order 13650 Federal Inspector training, EPA Regional Office, Lenexa, Kan. Contact: George Hess, 7540

CNSL

None

ECO

***12/11/15** – EPA's Clean Power Plan and Climate Change, Anita B Gorman Discovery Center, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Tamara Freeman, 7094; Althea Moses, 7649

12/14/15 – Friends of the Kaw, Wyandotte High School, Kansas, Kan. Contact: Pamela Houston, 7699

12/18/15 – Friends of the Kaw, Wyandotte High School, Kansas, Kan. Contact: Pamela Houston, 7699

1/6/16 – Friends of the Kaw, Wyandotte High School, Kansas, Kan. Contact: Pamela Houston, 7699

1/11/16 – Friends of the Kaw, Wyandotte High School, Kansas, Kan. Contact: Pamela Houston, 7699

ENST

11/30/15-12/04/15 – Office of Research and Development NetZero Green Infrastructure/Water Reuse Research site visit, Ft. Riley, Kan. Contact: Brenda Groskinsky, 7188.

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

***12/8/15** – Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Radioisotope Environmental Impact Statement

public meeting and open house, Columbia, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

SUPR

***12/7-11/15** – On-Scene Coordinator Readiness Work Group and Academy Training Board meetings, Arlington, Va. Contact: Heath Smith, 636-326-4724.

12/10/15 – Video teleconference with EPA HQ and Federal Emergency Management Agency to discuss ESF-10 briefing to Incident Management Assistance Teams, Regional Emergency Operations Center, Regional Office. Contact: Dave Williams, 7625.

***12/10/15** – Meeting with Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma stakeholders involved with the Tri-State Mining District Surface Water and Sediment Transport modeling to brief initial modeling results and plan future efforts addressing mining impacts on the Spring and Neosho River watersheds, Webb City, Mo. (Route 66 Event Center). Contact: Mark Doolan, 7169.

12/10/15 – Meeting with Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality to discuss exit strategy for 10th St. site, Hastings, Neb. Contact: Scott Marquess, 7131.

12/16-17/15 – FEMA Regional Incident Steering Committee (RISC) meeting at Region 7 Federal Emergency Management Agency, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Dave Williams, 7625.

12/14-18/15 — Removal assessment at the Citizens Gas & Electric Former Manufactured Gas Plant (FMGP) site in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Contact: Kevin Larson, 7808.

WWPD

12/8-10/15 – 2015 National Capacity Development and Operator Certification Workshop with EPA and states, Dallas, Tex. Contact: Bob Dunlevy, 7798

12/10-12/15 – U.S. Department of Agriculture Northern Plains Regional Climate Hub and

Department of the Interior Joint Stakeholders Committee Meeting, Fort Collins, Colo. Contact: Amy Shields, 7396

Congressional Inquiries:

Rep. Ann Wagner – 11/9/15 – Letter – Questions about West Lake Landfill site. Due: 11/24/15.
Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

None

Press Inquiries:

KIOS 91.5, Omaha Public Radio – Cheril Lee – 10/19/15 – Requests interview about the newly award Environmental Justice Small Grant to Together Incorporated of Metropolitan Omaha.
Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

KSDK-TV Ch. 5 – Jason Aubry – 11/19/15 – Requested statement from Region 7 regarding legislation to transfer authority at West Lake Landfill from EPA to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers FUSRAP. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

KBIA Radio, Columbia, Mo. – Amanda Henderson – 12/3/15 – Needs to interview someone regarding the Renewable Fuel Standard and ethanol production in Missouri. Referred to EPA headquarters press office, Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

Missouri Municipal League – Juliet Mee – 12/2/15 - Interview regarding Clean Power Plan for their internal publication. Awaiting callback. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (open)

Des Moines Register - Donnelle Elder – 12/2/15 – Requesting information regarding Renewable Fuel Standard. Referred to EPA headquarters press office. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

St. Louis American – Rebecca Rivas – 12/3/15 – Questions about minority hiring requirements and the St. Louis Metropolitan Sewer District. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Environmental Stories:

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Federal study to look at Coldwater Creek link to illness - 12/3/15 - Federal officials promised concerned residents they would get to the bottom of whether Coldwater Creek is behind a rash of cancers reported by people who grew up in north St. Louis County. http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/federal-study-to-look-at-coldwater-creek-link-to-illness/article_224a1444-5284-5a9a-8279-b784d8428241.html

WOI Iowa Public Radio (+audio) - Climate Change Politics at Home - 12/2/15 - As President Obama attends the Paris climate talks, Republican presidential hopefuls are making waves with their statements about global warming back home. <http://iowapublicradio.org/post/climate-change-politics-home>

York (Neb.) News-Times - EPA to give update on contamination issues - 12/3/15 - For the past few months, workers with EPA have been seen doing testing work in the downtown area and other locations – as the remediation efforts continue to eventually correct groundwater contamination issues here. Tonight (Thursday), Susan Fisher (who is heading up the project for the EPA) will

update the city council on the progress of their work and what will happen next.

http://www.yorknewstimes.com/news/epa-to-give-update-on-contamination-issues/article_1c10fdb-9987-11e5-848d-1b500f71d787.html

Sioux City (Iowa) Journal (opinion) - EPA decision on RFS disappoints - 12/3/15 - We share concerns expressed within Iowa and the renewable fuels industry about EPA's final decision on the Renewable Fuel Standard for next year. Not only was the EPA decision disappointing, but the fact it came from an administration who says it's committed to clean energy was disappointing, as well. http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/opinion/editorial/our-opinion-epa-decision-on-rfs-disappoints/article_7e07313d-40d9-559e-9991-023905ff25a6.html

Missouri Times - Rep. Remole hosts citizens concerned about Clean Power Plan – 12/3/15 - Rep. Tim Remole led a forum Monday night in Moberly addressing concerns about increasing federal regulation on utilities. Almost 100 concerned citizens filled the historic community theater, where Remole was joined by representatives from investor-regulated utilities, co-ops, and municipal utilities, who shared their present challenges. <http://themiouritimes.com/24673/remole-hosts-citizens-concerned-about-clean-power-plan/>

Drovers CattleNetwork - Vilsack addresses ranchers on climate change - 12/2/15 - In order to address climate change, we have to get ahead of it, and I'm convinced that no one innovates in the face of challenge better than agriculture. <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/vilsack-addresses-ranchers-climate-change>

Grand Island Independent - County attorney sends letter to cattle feeder - 12/2/15 - Hall County Attorney Jack Zitterkopf has sent a letter to Dannebrog cattle feeder Ken Kohlhof demanding that he reduce the number of cattle in his feedlot. http://www.theindependent.com/news/local/county-attorney-sends-letter-to-cattle-feeder/article_caf0f7de-9974-11e5-b026-c37e0ed4ba28.html

KCRG Channel 9 Cedar Rapids, Iowa - EPA Revokes Herbicide Approval - 12/3/15 - The Environmental Protection Agency says it will revoke approval of the Enlist Duo herbicide by Dow AgroSciences. The EPA says it's received new information on the herbicide and thinks it's more harmful than originally thought. <http://www.kcrg.com/content/news/Agribusiness-Report-360410841.html>

Also WHO Channel 13 Des Moines

Des Moines Register (opinion) - Garst land represents promise of a better future - 12/2/15 - We are grateful for people who are working to address the pressing concerns about agriculture's impacts on water quality, children disconnected from nature and climate change. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/abetteriowa/2015/12/02/garst-land-represents->

[promise-better-future/76669270/](#)

Centerville (Iowa) Daily Iowegian - Iowa Farm Bureau disappointed by EPA biofuel targets - 12/2/15 - The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Iowa's largest grassroots general farm organization, expressed disappointment in the renewable volume obligations just announced by EPA.

http://www.dailyiowegian.com/news/local_news/iowa-farm-bureau-disappointed-by-epa-biofuel-targets/article_a2d03d60-e2bb-5e80-bc4e-d2d628fa4316.html

Nebraska Congressman upset with EPA RFS decision - 12/2/15 - A Nebraska Congressman accuses the Environmental Protection Agency of again defying Congress.

Congressman Adrian Smith says the EPA doesn't have the right to require less ethanol be used for the national Renewable Fuel Standard. <http://nebraskaradionetwork.com/2015/12/02/nebraska-congressman-upset-with-epa-rfs-decision/>

Phys.org - Critics on both sides are wrong about EPA's ozone standard, expert says - 12/3/15 -

The Environmental Protection Agency's October decision to tighten ozone smog standards has drawn the ire of critics on both the left and right. Environmentalists have argued that the proposed new 70-parts-per-billion (ppb) standard doesn't go far enough, and business advocates claim attaining it will be too costly and yield few benefits. Rice University ozone pollution expert Daniel Cohan said both sides are wrong. <http://phys.org/news/2015-12-critics-sides-wrong-epa-ozone.html>

Reuters - Bondholders may get involved in Abengoa debt talks, sources say - 12/2/15 -

Creditor banks of Abengoa, in pre-insolvency talks to prevent the engineering and renewable energy company from becoming Spain's largest ever bankruptcy, are considering involving bondholders in debt restructuring negotiations, two sources familiar with the situation said.

http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/bondholders-may-get-involved-in-abengoa-debt-talks-sources-say/article_f57ca095-71ac-597c-bc04-88a608fd6375.html

New York Times - At Paris Climate Talks, Time to Whittle Down the Options - 12/3/15 -

Negotiators walked into the climate change summit meeting with a 50-page draft accord that is full of options — too many options. <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/projects/cp/climate/2015-paris-climate-talks/at-paris-climate-talks-an-abundance-of-options>

USDA: Climate Change to Impede Global Food Security - 12/3/15 - A new report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture says climate change will likely impede progress on global food security. This news release from USDA says the "Climate Change, Global Food Security and the U.S. Food System" report identifies the risks that climate change poses to global food security and the challenges facing farmers and consumers in adapting to changing climate conditions.

<http://agwired.com/2015/12/03/usda-climate-change-to-impede-global-food-security/>

Chicago Tribune - EPA tosses aside safety data, says Dow pesticide for GMOs won't harm people - 12/3/15 - A Chicago Tribune investigation finds that the Environmental Protection Agency discounted safety data for a World War II-era chemical called 2,4-D that has been linked to cancer and other health problems. It soon could be available for use as a weed killer on genetically modified crops. <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/watchdog/ct-gmo-crops-pesticide-resistance-met-20151203-story.html>

Forbes - EPA's Carbon Plan Is Here To Stay No Matter Who Controls The White House - 12/3/15 - Will the divide between President Obama and the GOP-led Congress over climate change impede or imperil this country's commitment to the cause? The issue has become even more pressing as both chambers have voted to nix the president's plan to curb carbon emissions, saying that the economic fallout would be too onerous and that the price of electricity would rise as a result. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kensilverstein/2015/12/03/epas-carbon-plan-is-here-to-stay-no-matter-who-controls-the-white-house/>

Forbes (column) - EPA Wants To Water Down Gasoline Supply With More Ethanol - 12/2/15 - The EPA raised the amount of ethanol required in our fuel mix. It is a clear victory for the ethanol lobbyists. It is also a well-designed publicity stunt for the Obama administration whose EPA announced the rules as the climate talks in Paris got underway. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/billtucker/2015/12/02/the-rfs-and-the-epa/>

POWER (magazine) - Much Ado About Clean Power Plan - 12/2/15 - The U.S. House of Representatives passed two joint resolutions on Dec. 1 designed to nullify the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Clean Power Plan. The resolutions are largely symbolic, however, because President Obama has vowed to veto both resolutions and Republican members of Congress—who are the main proponents of the action—do not have enough votes to override the veto. <http://www.powermag.com/much-ado-about-clean-power-plan-vote/>

Christian Science Monitor - Can Monsanto lead way to carbon neutral farming? (+video) - 12/1/15- The agro-business giant pledges to put its global reach to good use by reducing emissions, encouraging farmers to adapt greener growing methods, and continuing research on crops that can withstand global warming. <http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/2015/1201/Can-Monsanto-lead-way-to-carbon-neutral-farming-video>

AgWired - Farm & Food Partnerships – A New Paradigm - 12/2/15 - Steve Peterson told us that he has been wanting to talk to ag retailers. He believes these companies will be key to the scaling of true sustainability across U.S. agriculture. <http://agwired.com/2015/12/02/farm-food-partnerships-a-new-paradigm/>

E&E News PM - CCS costs likely to far exceed estimates -- study - 12/2/15 - The cost of carbon capture and sequestration technology on a typical coal plant may be much higher than what some earlier studies assume, according to an analysis released today by University of Michigan researchers. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/stories/1060028856/>

Midwest Energy News - Move over, fixed fees — utilities see demand charges as revenue cure - 12/2/15 - Demand-based charges normally reserved for big industrial users could also be applied to residential customers if an Illinois utility gets its way in the state legislature. <http://midwestenergynews.com/2015/12/02/move-over-fixed-fees-utilities-see-demand-charges-as-revenue-cure/>

Greenwire - EPA advances updates to its cross-state rule - 12/2/15 - U.S. EPA is poised to launch a 45-day public comment period on a plan that would require significant reductions in many power plants' allowable emissions of nitrogen oxides. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060028838/>

Domestic Fuel - Army Turning Artillery Shells into Biodiesel - 12/3/15 - You've heard about pounding swords into plowshares. Well, how about making bombs into biodiesel? This article from the U.S. Army says that's the idea behind Army researchers, in concert with biofuel maker Algenol Biotech LLC, using algae to turn the propellant in artillery rounds into biodiesel. <http://energy.agwired.com/2015/12/03/army-turning-artillery-shells-into-biodiesel/>

Domestic Fuel - Global RFA Urges COP21 to Support Biofuels - 12/3/15 - As world leaders continue to meet in Paris for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 21), the Global Renewable Fuels Alliance (GRFA) is asking them to signal their support for biofuels as one of the tools to fight climate change. <http://energy.agwired.com/2015/12/03/global-rfa-urges-cop21-to-support-biofuels/>

The Blaze - Five Reasons the EPA Should Scare the Heck Out of You - 12/2/15 - Few people realize just how massive and powerful EPA is. Unlike any other government organization in American history, EPA influences policy in virtually every part of the nation, and it even has significant control over how individuals manage their own property. <http://www.theblaze.com/contributions/five-reasons-the-epa-should-scare-the-heck-out-of-you/>

BNA - Judges Explore Deferring to EPA on Water Transfer Rule - 12/3/15 - Two of the three judges hearing oral arguments Dec. 1 in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit appeared to signal an interest in deferring to the regulatory expertise of the Environmental Protection Agency on its 2008 water transfers rule. <http://www.bna.com/judges-explore-deferring-n57982064242/>

The Hill - In Paris, the stakes could not be higher - 12/2/15 - There is much at stake in Paris during the United Nations Climate Conference, much more than polar bears and inconvenient weather. Our ability to produce food and have access to clean fresh water are also at stake. River basins generate the majority of the world's food and rivers sustain the majority of freshwater withdraws. <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/261726-in-paris-the-stakes-could-not-be-higher>

The Hill - Build on Reagan's bipartisan energy efficiency - 12/2/15 - When you think of Ronald Reagan, energy efficiency may not be the first thing that comes to mind. But the former California governor and U.S. president was a genuine trailblazer in that arena. <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/261729-build-on-reagans-bipartisan-energy-efficiency-legacy>

The Hill (blog) - Global warming can lead to economic development - 12/2/15 - Opportunities for innovation, economic development, job creation, higher standards of living for the middle class and even environmental enhancements abound in the scenarios on global warming. But doom, not opportunities, dominates the dialogue, which is a disservice to progress. <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/261731-global-warming-can-lead-to-economic-development>

Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald (opinion) - Eugene Robinson: China willing to lead on clean energy - 12/3/15 - As the Paris climate talks begin, the die is already cast: The world is going to move toward cleaner, more sustainable sources of energy. The question for U.S. policymakers is whether the world's biggest economy gets left behind. http://www.omaha.com/opinion/eugene-robinson-china-willing-to-lead-on-clean-energy/article_74acabb4-1488-594a-bace-90c36319484b.html

Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald (opinion) - John Bolton and John Yoo: Paris climate promises likely empty - 12/3/15 - On one side is international pressure to vest any climate deal with what international law considers to be binding legal force. On the other is the political difficulty, even the impossibility, of approving a climate treaty under our Constitution because of the need for approval. http://www.omaha.com/opinion/john-bolton-and-john-yoo-paris-climate-promises-likely-empty/article_ca71c0dc-53d4-5b54-bc23-9431939a87d4.html

Big Think (blog) - The Arctic Circle Was Warmer than Alturas, California, on Sunday - 12/3/15 - It's difficult to ignore the impacts of climate change. Especially when Barrow, Alaska, a town that sits at the top of the world, just above the Arctic Circle, was warmer than the California city of Alturas. <http://bigthink.com/ideafeed/the-arctic-circle-was-warmer-than-alturas-california-on-sunday>

TIME - World Leaders Must Listen to Pope Francis on Climate Change - 12/2/15 - The climate change conference that kicked off this week in Paris has been called the world's "last, best hope" for

an international agreement to combat climate change. Though past conferences have largely been failures, there's a new player in town this year who could change everything: Pope Francis. <http://time.com/4132104/paris-climate-conference-pope-francis/>

ClimateWire - Obama says carbon price is better than regulations - 12/2/15 - Steven Chu was meeting with the president for his "exit interview" when the outgoing Energy secretary told his boss that the best way to attack climate change is with a carbon tax. <http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060028785>

Utility DIVE - Is TASC splintering the rooftop solar industry? - 12/3/15 - A leading solar advocacy group is drawing criticism from its own industry. Just as the utility sector begins to embrace solar, the solar industry itself appears to be splintering, with once-allied companies being divided by contentious electricity policy issues on both the national and state level. <http://www.utilitydive.com/news/is-tasc-splintering-the-rooftop-solar-industry/410206/>

Utility DIVE - Report: Utility coal burn falling more rapidly than forecasted - 12/3/15 - Utilities around the country are reporting that coal use is falling and quickly. Platts reports on a new report presented this week during a STB Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, finding 65% of utilities are using less coal than they were a year ago. <http://www.utilitydive.com/news/report-utility-coal-burn-falling-more-rapidly-than-forecasted/410181/>

Utility DIVE - How remote microgrid systems are driving capacity growth for the sector - 12/2/15 - r years, United States has led the world on microgrid development. But now, the world is catching up as communities turn toward microgrids as a way to shore up grid reliability and integrate more renewables. <http://www.utilitydive.com/news/how-remote-microgrid-systems-are-driving-capacity-growth-for-the-sector/410072/>

The Hill - Seeing the carbon for the trees - 12/2/15 - As U.S. officials put the final touches on our national strategy for the COP21 climate talks in Paris, it is essential that one homegrown climate solution is not overlooked—America's forests. <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/261655-seeing-the-carbon-for-the-trees>

Reuters - U.S. oil groups face rising biofuels costs, see higher pump prices - 12/3/15 - U.S. oil companies will likely pay close to \$1 billion this year to put more ethanol and renewables in gasoline and diesel and face even higher compliance costs in 2016 after the U.S. government set targets for alternative fuel use above industry expectations. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/12/03/us-biofuels-compliance-idUSKBN0TM0E120151203>

The Hill - Federal regulations are needed to protect water from fracking waste - 12/2/15 - The

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed federal regulations to establish pretreatment standards of performance for oil and gas wastewaters. These proposed standards are crucial to protect both public drinking water sources as well as workers at publicly owned treatment works (POTWs). <http://thehill.com/blogs/pundits-blog/energy-environment/261746-federal-regulations-are-needed-to-protect-water-from>

USA Today (column) - The climate war is over - 12/2/15 - Monday's announcement by Bill Gates, the Obama administration and dozens of billionaires and governments that they'd double the amount they invest in developing clean energy technologies was heralded as a positive start to the U.N. climate summit. Republicans and Democrats alike can support policy that makes clean energy cheaper. <http://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2015/12/02/fracking-ends-climate-change-wars-clean-energy-solutions-column/76663456/>

Washington Post This is why sowing doubt about climate change is such an effective strategy - 12/2/15 - For some time, social science researchers have been studying an oddity about the U.S. — compared with many other nations, we're a hotbed of global warming doubt and denial. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/12/02/new-research-confirms-that-sowing-doubt-about-climate-change-is-devastatingly-effective/>

Daily Kos (blog) - Biomass, Biofuel, Biopower, and Bioenergy: Sound So Cool But Are Not - 12/2/15 - Climate change is telling us to stop pitching pollution into the atmosphere—in much the same way that the bubonic plague taught our ancestors to stop dumping filth into the streets in the Middle Ages. We listened then, but not now. <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2015/12/02/1456175/-Biomass-Biofuel-Biopower-and-Bioenergy-Sound-So-Cool-But-Are-Not>

BNA - Comment Period Opens on Ozone Transport Proposal Smokestacks - 12/2/15 - The Environmental Protection Agency will accept comments through Jan. 19 on a proposed rule that would require power plants in 23 states to achieve additional reductions in ozone precursor emissions.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=79930481&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0h6b3m8q9&split=

BNA - D.C. Circuit MATS Decision Could Disrupt EPA Plans - 12/2/15 - The Environmental Protection Agency's plan to reaffirm its "appropriate and necessary" finding on power plant emissions of mercury in response to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling could be significantly disrupted if a federal appeals court decides to vacate the agency's initial determination, several attorneys who are tracking the litigation said.

http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=79930508&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0h6b4z9v2&split=

BNA - Gates, Economist Agree on Clean Energy R&D Needs - 12/2/15 - When Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates pledged to plow \$1 billion of his own money into clean energy research and development, he followed a narrative long-advocated by Bjorn Lomborg, an economist known for

writing "The Skeptical Environmentalist." For both of them, R&D is the key to fighting climate change.

http://news.bna.com/deIn/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=79930473&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0h6b3d2j5&split=

BNB - Advocacy Groups Urge EPA to Strengthen Methane Rules - 12/2/15 - More than 125 environment groups from around the U.S. are asking the Environmental Protection Agency to strengthen and broaden its efforts to curb methane pollution from the oil and natural gas sectors.

http://news.bna.com/deIn/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=79930482&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0h6b3m9n6&split=

Chris Whitley

Public Affairs Specialist

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